Effect of floods on Golden Triangle, Orissa

3346. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Golden Triangle in Orissa has suffered a serious setback due to recent flood;

(b) if so, the damaged areas identified by Government;

(c) the steps taken to develop the damaged infrastructure to restore the flow of tourist to the Golden Triangle; and

(d) the details of Central assistance extended therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Though natural calamities like floods do create temporary set backs for tourist places, no such report in respect of Bhubaneswar-Puri-Konark has been received in the department from the State Government as yet.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) Financial assistance is provided to States/UTs for tourism projects prioritised in consultation with them every year. Eighteen projects of Orissa with Central financial component of Rs. 506.50 lakhs have been prioritised during the current financial year.

Extending visitors time for Humayun's Tomb for promoting night tourism

3347. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Humayun's Tomb in New Delhi with lighting system will now be kept open up to 10 P.M. to promote night tourism specially for foreign tourists;

(b) whether this facility would be extended to other city monuments including the historic Qutab Minar;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) The Humayun's Tomb is being kept open from 7 P.M. to 9 P.M. for all visitors.

(b) to (d) There is no proposal with the Government to extend this facility to other monuments in Delhi.